

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

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DRAFTED BY EUR/ SOV: JFMATLOCK: SAL

6/20/73 EXT 23738

APPROVED BY EUR/ SOV: JFMATLOCK

EUR/ EX: LRUSSELL (SUBS)

COMMERCE: BEWT: LAZARUS (INFO)

TREAS: MR. BENNETT (INFO)

----- 010521

O 202345 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 120898

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AFSP, ETRD, ABLD, UR

SUBJ: NEW COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

1. DURING NEGOTIATIONS TODAY ON TEXT OF TWO PROPOSALS FOR POSSIBLE SIGNATURE DURING BREZHNEV VISIT (SEPTELS), PROBLEM OF RENT FOR COMMERCIAL OFFICE PROPERTY IN MOSCOW WAS DISCUSSED. SOVIETS REPRESENTED BY ALKHIMOV, ZINOVIEV AND TRETYAKOV; US BY BENNETT, STOESSEL, LAZARUS AND MATLOCK.

2. ALKHIMOV STATED THAT " LEADERS" HAD DECIDED TO SETTLE QUESTION OF LEASE ON COMMERCIAL PROPERTY AND THAT HE AUTHORIZED TO SEND CABLE TO MOSCOW TODAY WITH APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS. ALKHIMOV THEN ASKED WHAT WE DESIRE. HE WAS

TOLD THAT WE WOULD REQUIRE LEASE AT " GOING MOSCOW RATE," THAT WE UNDERSTAND BRITISH PAY ABOUT R. 12.50 PER SQUARE METER, AND THAT NO ONE TO OUR KNOWLEDGE PAYS MORE THAN R 20.00. ALKHIMOV INDICATED THAT UPDK WAS NOT RPT NOT
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INSTRUCTED TO ASK FOR RENT COMPARABLE TO NEW YORK. HE DID NOT CONTRADICT OUR CONTENTION THAT PRICING AT NEW YORK RATES IS OUT OF QUESTION, PARTICULARLY SINCE KAMA RIVER PURCHASING COMMISSION IS IN NO WAY RELATED TO OUR COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR'S OFFICE.

3. ALKHIMOV SAID THAT APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS WOULD BE CABLED TO MOSCOW TODAY. NO EXPLICIT FIGURE WAS CITED FOR SETTLEMENT, BUT CLEAR IMPLICATION WAS THAT IT WOULD NOT BE SUBSTANTIALLY IN EXCESS OF R 20.00 PER SQUARE METER. ALKHIMOV ASKED THAT EMBASSY GET IN TOUCH WITH FIRYUBIN MORNING OF JUNE 21 TO WORK OUT LEASE TERMS.

4. EMBASSY, THEREFORE, REQUESTED TO TAKE UP MATTER WITH FIRYUBIN -- OR IN HIS ABSENCE APPROPRIATE SENIOR MFA OFFICIAL -- AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE JUNE 21. EMBASSY AUTHORIZED TO LEASE ENTIRE SPACE OFFERED AT RATE NOT TO EXCEED R 25.00 PER SQUARE METER. EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN FIRM FIVE- YEAR LEASE.

5. PLEASE REPORT RESULTS BY IMMEDIATE CABLE. ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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